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18 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
19 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

20 HYPER ICE, INC., and HYPERICE IP
21 SUBCO, LLC,

22 Plaintiffs,

23 v.

24 MERCHSOURCE LLC,

25 Defendant,

Case No. 8:24-cv-00098-JWH-(DFMx)
(Lead Case)

MerchSource: 8:24-cv-00410-JWH-
(DFMx) (Consolidated)

**STIPULATED PROTECTIVE
ORDER**

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1 1. A. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

2 As the parties have represented that discovery in this action is likely to involve
3 production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special
4 protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than
5 prosecuting this litigation may be warranted, this Court enters the following
6 Protective Order. This Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or
7 responses to discovery. The protection it affords from public disclosure and use
8 extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential
9 treatment under the applicable legal principles. Further, as set forth in Section 13.3,
10 below, this Protective Order does not entitle the parties to file confidential
11 information under seal. Rather, when the parties seek permission from the court to
12 file material under seal, the parties must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5 and with
13 any pertinent orders of the assigned District Judge and Magistrate Judge.

14 B. GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT

15 In light of the nature of the claims and allegations in this case and the parties'
16 representations that discovery in this case will involve the production of confidential
17 records, and in order to expedite the flow of information, to facilitate the prompt
18 resolution of disputes over confidentiality of discovery materials, to adequately
19 protect information the parties are entitled to keep confidential, to ensure that the
20 parties are permitted reasonable necessary uses of such material in connection with
21 this action, to address their handling of such material at the end of the litigation, and
22 to serve the ends of justice, a protective order for such information is justified in this
23 matter. The parties shall not designate any information/documents as confidential
24 without a good faith belief that such information/documents have been maintained in
25 a confidential, non-public manner, and that there is good cause or a compelling
26 reason why it should not be part of the public record of this case.

1 2. DEFINITIONS

2 2.1 Action: The instant action: *Hyper Ice, Inc. and Hyperice IP Subco, LLC*
3 *v. MerchSource LLC*, Case No. 8:24-cv-00098-JWH-(DFMx) (Lead Case),
4 MerchSource: 8:24-cv-00410-JWH-(DFMx) (Consolidated).

5 2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation
6 of information or items under this Order.

7 2.3 “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items: information (regardless of
8 how it is generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection
9 under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), and as specified above in the Good
10 Cause Statement.

11 2.4 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY”
12 Information or Items: extremely sensitive “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items,
13 the disclosure of which to another Party or Non-Party would create a substantial risk
14 of serious harm that could not be avoided by less restrictive means.

15 2.5 Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel of Record and House
16 Counsel (as well as their support staff).

17 2.6 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates information or
18 items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as
19 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES
20 ONLY.”

21 2.7 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of
22 the medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including,
23 among other things, testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or
24 generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in this matter.

25 2.8 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
26 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as
27 an expert witness or as a consultant in this Action.

28 2.9 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a party to this Action.

House Counsel does not include Outside Counsel of Record or any other outside counsel.

2.10 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity not named as a Party to this action.

2.11 Outside Counsel of Record: attorneys who are not employees of a party to this Action but are retained to represent or advise a party to this Action and have appeared in this Action on behalf of that party or are affiliated with a law firm which has appeared on behalf of that party, and includes support staff.

2.12 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors, employees, consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel of Record (and their support staffs).

2.13 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material in this Action.

2.14 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support services (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or demonstrations, and organizing, storing, or retrieving data in any form or medium) and their employees and subcontractors.

2.15 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.”

2.16 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a Producing Party.

2.17 Related Case: any pending legal proceeding (including federal court litigations, proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and USITC investigations) involving any patent asserted in this Action or one or more of the Related Patents.

2.18 Related Patent: (a) any patent or patent application which claims priority from any patent asserted in this Action; (b) any patents or patent applications

1 that claim priority from any patent on which any patent asserted in this Action claims
2 priority; (c) any patents or patent applications on which any patent asserted in this
3 Action depends for priority; (d) any reissues or reexaminations of any of the
4 aforementioned patents or patent applications; and (e) any foreign counterparts of any
5 of the aforementioned patents or patent applications—all whether or not abandoned
6 and whether or not issued.

7 3. SCOPE

8 The protections conferred by this Order cover not only Protected Material (as
9 defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from Protected
10 Material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of Protected Material;
11 and (3) any deposition testimony, conversations, or presentations by Parties or their
12 Counsel that might reveal Protected Material, other than during a court hearing or at
13 trial.

14 Any use of Protected Material during a court hearing or at trial shall be
15 governed by the orders of the presiding judge. This Order does not govern the use of
16 Protected Material during a court hearing or at trial.

17 4. DURATION

18 Even after final disposition of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations
19 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees
20 otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be
21 deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action, with
22 or without prejudice; and (2) final judgment herein after the completion and
23 exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews of this Action,
24 including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time
25 pursuant to applicable law.

26 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

27 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

28 Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this

1 Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies
2 under the appropriate standards. The Designating Party must designate for protection
3 only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that
4 qualify so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications
5 for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of
6 this Order.

7 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations
8 that are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper
9 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber the case development process or to impose
10 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Designating
11 Party to sanctions.

12 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that information or items that it
13 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, that Designating Party must
14 promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing the inapplicable designation.

15 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in
16 this Order (see, e.g., second paragraph of Section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise
17 stipulated or ordered, Disclosure or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection
18 under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or
19 produced.

20 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

21 (a) for information in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic
22 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions), that the Producing Party affix at
23 a minimum, the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL --
24 ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" to each page that contains protected material. If only
25 a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing
26 Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate
27 markings in the margins).

28 A Party or Non-Party that makes original documents available for inspection

1 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated
2 which documents it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and
3 before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be
4 deemed “CONFIDENTIAL.” After the inspecting Party has identified the documents
5 it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents,
6 or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing
7 the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the “CONFIDENTIAL”, or
8 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” legend to each page
9 that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a
10 page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the
11 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins).

12 (b) for testimony given in depositions that the Designating Party identifies
13 on the record, before the close of the deposition as protected testimony, or within
14 seven (7) days of receipt of the final transcript.

15 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary and for
16 any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the
17 exterior of the container or containers in which the information is stored the legend
18 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS’ EYES
19 ONLY.” If only a portion or portions of the information warrants protection, the
20 Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

21 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent
22 failure to designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the
23 Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for such material.
24 Upon timely correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable
25 efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this
26 Order.

27 6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

28 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a

1 designation of confidentiality at any time that is consistent with the Court's
2 Scheduling Order.

3 6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute
4 resolution process under Local Rule 37-1 et seq.

5 6.3 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on
6 the Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose
7 (e.g., to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may
8 expose the Challenging Party to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived
9 or withdrawn the confidentiality designation, all parties shall continue to afford the
10 material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing
11 Party's designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

12 7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

13 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is
14 disclosed or produced by another Party or by a Non-Party in connection with this
15 Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Such
16 Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the
17 conditions described in this Order. When the Action has been terminated, a Receiving
18 Party must comply with the provisions of Section 14 below.

19 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a
20 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons
21 authorized under this Order.

22 7.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless
23 otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a
24 Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated
25 "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:

26 (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well
27 as employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary
28 to disclose the information for this Action;

1 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the
2 Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action;

3 (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
4 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
5 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

6 (d) the court and its personnel;

7 (e) private court reporters and their staff to whom disclosure is reasonably
8 necessary for this Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement
9 to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

10 (f) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
11 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
12 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

13 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
14 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

15 (h) during their depositions, witnesses, and attorneys for witnesses, in the
16 Action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary provided: (1) the deposing party
17 requests that the witness sign the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”
18 (Exhibit A); and (2) they will not be permitted to keep any confidential information
19 unless they sign the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A),
20 unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of
21 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected
22 Material may be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to
23 anyone except as permitted under this Protective Order;

24 (i) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
25 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions; and

26 (j) with respect to CONFIDENTIAL information received from Hyper Ice,
27 Outside Counsel of Record for a defendant in a Related Case, subject to said Outside
28 Counsel of Record for the defendant in the Related Case treating such information in

1 accordance with the terms of this and any other similar applicable Order.

2 7.3 Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL–ATTORNEYS’ EYES
3 ONLY” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in
4 writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or
5 item designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” only
6 to:

7 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of Record in this Action, as well as
8 employees of said Outside Counsel of Record to whom it is reasonably necessary to
9 disclose the information for this Action;

10
11 (b) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom
12 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the
13 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

14 (c) the court and its personnel;

15 (d) private court reporters and their staff to whom disclosure is reasonably
16 necessary for this Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement
17 to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

18 (e) professional jury or trial consultants, mock jurors, and Professional
19 Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have
20 signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

21 (f) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a
22 custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information;

23 (g) any mediator or settlement officer, and their supporting personnel,
24 mutually agreed upon by any of the parties engaged in settlement discussions; and

25 (h) with respect to HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES
26 ONLY information received from Hyper Ice, Outside Counsel of Record for a
27 defendant in a Related Case, subject to said Outside Counsel of Record for the
28 defendant in the Related Case treating such information in accordance with the terms

1 of this and any other similar applicable Order.

2 7.4. Procedures for Approving or Objecting to Disclosure of “HIGHLY
3 CONFIDENTIAL–ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” Information or Items to Experts.

4 (a) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to in writing by the
5 Designating Party, a Party that seeks to disclose to an Expert (as defined in this
6 Order) any information or item that has been designated “HIGHLY
7 CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” pursuant to paragraph 7.3(b) first
8 must make a written request to the Designating Party that (1) sets forth the full name
9 of the Expert and the city and state of his or her primary residence, (2) attaches a
10 copy of the Expert’s current resume, (3) identifies the Expert’s current employer(s)
11 and whether, at the time of retention, whether the Expert anticipates becoming an
12 employee of a Party or of a Party’s competitor, (4) identifies each person or entity
13 from whom the Expert has received compensation or funding for work in his or her
14 areas of expertise or to whom the Expert has provided professional services,
15 including in connection with a litigation, at any time during the preceding five years
16 and the party to the litigation for whom such work was done, (5) identifies (by name
17 and number of the case, filing date, and location of court) any litigation in connection
18 with which the Expert has offered expert testimony, including through a declaration,
19 report, or testimony at a deposition or trial, during the preceding five years, and (6)
20 identifies any patents or patent applications in which the Expert is identified as an
21 inventor or applicant, is involved in prosecuting or maintaining, or has any pecuniary
22 interest. With regard to the information sought through part (4) of this disclosure, if
23 the Expert believes any of this information is subject to a confidentiality obligation to
24 a third party, then the Expert should provide whatever information the Expert
25 believes can be disclosed without violating any confidentiality agreements, and the
26 Party seeking to disclose to the Expert shall be available to meet and confer with the
27 Designating Party regarding any such engagement.

28 (b) A Party that makes a request and provides the information specified in

1 the preceding respective paragraphs may disclose the subject Protected Material to
2 the identified Expert unless, within 7 days of delivering the request, the Party
3 receives a written objection from the Designating Party. Any such objection must set
4 forth in detail the grounds on which it is based.

5 (c) All challenges to objections from the Designating Party shall proceed
6 under Local Rule 37-1 through Local Rule 37-4.

7 In any such proceeding, the Party opposing disclosure to the Expert shall bear
8 the burden of proving that the risk of harm that the disclosure would entail (under the
9 safeguards proposed) outweighs the Receiving Party's need to disclose the Protected
10 Material to its Expert.

11 8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED
12 PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

13 If a Party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation
14 that compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this Action as
15 "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL-ATTORNEYS' EYES
16 ONLY," that Party must:

17 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party. Such notification shall
18 include a copy of the subpoena or court order unless prohibited by law;

19 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order
20 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena
21 or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of
22 this Protective Order; and

23 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued
24 by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

25 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with
26 the subpoena or court order shall not produce any information designated in this
27 action as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS'
28 EYES ONLY" before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order

1 issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's permission, or unless
2 otherwise required by the law or court order. The Designating Party shall bear the
3 burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material and
4 nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a
5 Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

6 9. A NON-PARTY'S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE
7 PRODUCED IN THIS LITIGATION

8 (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a
9 Non-Party in this Action and designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY
10 CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY." Such information produced by
11 Non-Parties in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief
12 provided by this Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as
13 prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

14 (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to
15 produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is
16 subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's
17 confidential information, then the Party shall:

18 (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party
19 that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement
20 with a Non-Party;

21 (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Protective Order
22 in this Action, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description
23 of the information requested; and

24 (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-
25 Party, if requested.

26 (c) If a Non-Party represented by counsel fails to commence the process called for by
27 Local Rules 45-1 and 37-1, et seq. within 14 days of receiving the notice and
28 accompanying information or fails contemporaneously to notify the Receiving Party

1 that it has done so, the Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential
2 information responsive to the discovery request. If an unrepresented Non-Party fails
3 to seek a protective order from this court within 14 days of receiving the notice and
4 accompanying information, the Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's
5 confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely
6 seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its
7 possession or control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-
8 Party before a determination by the court unless otherwise required by the law or
9 court order. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden
10 and expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

11 10. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

12 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
13 Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
14 Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the
15 Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve
16 all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to
17 whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order, and
18 (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement
19 to Be Bound" (Exhibit A).

20 11. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
21 PROTECTED MATERIAL

22 When a Producing Party gives notice to Receiving Parties that certain
23 inadvertently produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection,
24 the obligations of the Receiving Parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil
25 Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure
26 may be established in an e-discovery order that provides for production without prior
27 privilege review. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) and (e), the
28 production of a privileged or work-product-protected document, by itself, is not a

1 waiver of privilege or protection from discovery in this case or in any other federal or
2 state proceeding. For example, the mere production of privilege or work-product-
3 protected documents in this case as part of a production is not itself a waiver in this
4 case or any other federal or state proceeding. A Producing Party may assert privilege
5 or protection over produced documents at any time by notifying the Receiving Party
6 in writing of the assertion of privilege or protection.

7 12. PROSECUTION BAR

8 Parties may designate Information or Items as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –
9 NON-PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” Such information is subject
10 to the same protections as Information or Items designed “HIGHLY
11 CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” In addition, Information or
12 Items designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – NON-PROSECUTING
13 ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” shall not be disclosed to any individual involved in
14 the prosecution of patents or patent applications relating to the subject matter of the
15 patents-in-suit, any Related Patent, or any other patent or patent application that
16 relates to the subject matter of the Protected Information received. For purposes of
17 this paragraph, “prosecution” includes directly or indirectly drafting, amending,
18 reviewing, advising, or otherwise affecting the scope or maintenance of patent
19 specifications or claims. Prosecution includes, for example, original prosecution,
20 reissue, and reexamination and other post-grant proceedings.

21 Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall prevent an attorney from
22 representing a party in a proceeding that challenges a patent-in-suit before a domestic
23 or foreign agency (including, but not limited to, a reissue protest, *ex parte*
24 reexamination, *inter partes* reexamination, post grant review, or *inter partes* review)
25 unless the attorney is involved in directly or indirectly drafting, amending, advising,
26 or otherwise affecting the scope of patent claims on behalf of a patent owner. This
27 Prosecution Bar shall begin when access to “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – NON-
28 PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” information is first received by the

1 affected individual and shall end two (2) years after the date of disclosure.

2 13. MISCELLANEOUS

3 13.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any
4 person to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

5 13.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. No Party waives any right it otherwise
6 would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item on any
7 ground not addressed in this Protective Order. Similarly, no Party waives any right to
8 object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material covered by this
9 Protective Order.

10 13.3 Filing Protected Material. Without written permission from the
11 Designating Party or a court order secured after appropriate notice to all interested
12 persons, a Party may not file in the public record in this action any Protected
13 Material, but rather must seek to file under seal any Protected Material in compliance
14 with Local Rule 79. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must
15 comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5 and with any pertinent orders of the assigned
16 District Judge and Magistrate Judge. Protected Material may only be filed under seal
17 pursuant to a court order authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material at
18 issue. If a Party's request to file Protected Material under seal is denied by the court,
19 then the Receiving Party may file the information in the public record unless
20 otherwise instructed by the court.

21 13.4 Privilege Logs. No Party is required to identify on its respective
22 privilege log any document or communication dated after January 3, 2024. The
23 parties shall exchange their respective privilege logs at a time to be agreed upon by
24 the parties following the production of documents, or as otherwise ordered by the
25 Court.

26 14. FINAL DISPOSITION

27 After the final disposition of this Action, as defined in Section 4, within 60
28 days of a written request by the Designating Party, each Receiving Party must return

1 all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material. As used in this
2 subdivision, "all Protected Material" includes all copies, abstracts, compilations,
3 summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected
4 Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving
5 Party must submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same
6 person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60 day deadline that (1) identifies
7 (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or
8 destroyed and (2) affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies,
9 abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other format reproducing or capturing any
10 of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to
11 retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition, and hearing
12 transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert
13 reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such
14 materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain or
15 constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in
16 Section 4.

17 15. Any violation of this Order may be punished by any and all appropriate
18 measures including, without limitation, contempt proceedings and/or monetary
19 sanctions.

20 IT IS SO ORDERED.

21 DATED: October 8, 2024

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24 Honorable Douglas F. McCormick
United States Magistrate Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
_____ [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that
I have read in its entirety and understand the Protective Order that was issued by the
United States District Court for the Central District of California on
_____ in the case of
_____. I agree to comply with and to be bound
by all the terms of this Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure
to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt.
I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that
is subject to this Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance
with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court
for the Central District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this
Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this
action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full name] of
_____ [print or type full address and
telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with
this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Protective Order.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____